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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

New faculty express enthusiasm ahead of 2019-20 academic year

by Erica Ivins '21
Staff Writer

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/DOUG HIGGINS

As the 2019-20 school year begins, the College welcomes 30 new faculty members, as well as announcing an additional nine tenure-track appointments.

Hamilton College recently welcomed newly-appointed faculty to campus for the 2019-2020 academic year. New tenure track faculty includes Naser Al Madi, Mo Alloush, Clark Bowman, Pritha Chaudhuri, Jason Cieply, Usman Hamid, Michael Welsh, Jeanne Willcoxon, and Ryan Carter.

Welsh, a professor of chemistry, identifies similarities between Hamilton and his own college.

"I attended a school that's very similar to Hamilton, and I would say that more than anything it was my Chemistry professors there that inspired me to teach at a liberal arts college," he said. "They were fantastic teachers and mentors."

Professor of Theatre Jeanne Willcoxon is impressed by the educational opportunities and community on campus.

"I've found that the [Hamilton] students truly encourage and engage with each other in the classroom, making classes a rich collaborative learning experience for all," she said. "I also have to include faculty and staff in this — I've taught at other institutions and Hamilton's faculty, staff, and students seem to always be at the ready to help support each other. It is, in other words, just a great environment in which to grow!"

Welsh agreed, adding, "At Hamilton, the resources available for research are fantastic for a college of its size, so that was a big attraction. Not to mention the students, who I've continually found to be friendly, bright, and capable."

Willcoxon's research focuses on feminist performance, theater for social change, and performance phenomenology. She expressed excitement to teach at an institution grounded in liberal arts values.

"The biggest message that students take from my class, I hope, is that there are many ways of thinking about the past and present," said Willcoxon. "The other message would be that they should trust their abilities to create theatre — I often say that they will create theatre that I can't even imagine... and that is a really good thing!"

In addition to working with Hamilton's academic opportunities, faculty members said they are thrilled to become a part of the College community.

Said Welsh: "I'm very excited to get research going with my two thesis students (shoutout to Micaela and Juliana.) But I'm also a former D[ivision] III athlete and a big sports fan. I'm pretty pumped to be able to walk out of the Science Center and straight into hockey and basketball games or an indoor track meet. I'm definitely looking forward to supporting all of the sports teams here at Hamilton."

Incoming professor of Asian Studies Usman Hamid said he became interest in teaching at Hamilton after viewing the school's job listing for a specialist of Islam in Asia.

"My training as a scholar of Islam has always been in the context of interdisciplinary area studies programs, first at the Institute of Islamic Studies at McGill University, and then later at the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations at the University of Toronto," Hamid said. "Therefore, the fact that Hamilton was looking to appoint someone to teach Islam in an interdisciplinary area studies context made me very excited. As I got to know of the faculty here and their research and teaching, I felt Hamilton would be a great fit."

Other new faculty include Mairin Augustine, Jonas Brodin, Priya Chandrasekaran, Taylor Clock, Megan Dean, Dannah Dennis, Rebecca Dyer, Emma Flacard, Debra Freas, Adam Giannelli, David Jacobs, Chitra Jogani, Ruth Lo, Heather MacArthur, Francis MacDonnell, Theo Mazumdar, Anne Richard, Tural Sadigov, Michael Shapiro, John Shea, Megan Smith, Stina Soderling, Katarzyna Stempniak, Mahala Stewart, Emiko Stock, Han-Hsin Sung, Yen Vu, Chenyu Wang, Fei Wu, and Takuma Yoshida.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/NANCY L. FORD

Michael Welsh joins the Chemistry Department.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/NANCY L. FORD

Jeanne Willcoxon joins the Theatre Department.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/NANCY L. FORD

Usmad Hamid joins the Asian Studies Department.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/NANCY L. FORD

Pritha Chaudhuri joins the Economics Department.

Emmy Award-winner Tina Fey announced as next Sacerdote Great Names speaker

by Natalie Halpin '21
NEWS EDITOR

On Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7 PM, award-winning comedian Tina Fey will speak in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House stage as a guest in Hamilton College's Sacerdote Great Names Series. The event is free and open to the public, but tickets will be required. Tickets will be available at www.hamilton.edu/greatnames in September.

Prior to serving as the executive producer, head writer, and star of NBC's Emmy Award-winning comedy "30 Rock," Fey moved to New York City from her temporary residence in Chicago to write for *Saturday Night Live* (*SNL*). Not only did she complete nine seasons of the series as a cast member and "Weekend Update" anchor, but Fey also became the first female head writer in *SNL* history. One of her more notable roles was her impersonation of former-Vice Presidential candidate Sarah Palin. In the role, which received widespread acclaim, Fey sported the Alaskan governor's apparel and introduced catchphrases like "Babies, guns, Jesus: hot damn!"

"30 Rock" became one of Fey's next projects in 2006. The show garnered multiple Emmy Awards from the comedy category including Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series. As executive producer, head writer, and star of the show, she worked alongside actors Alec Baldwin, Jane Krakowski, and Tracy Morgan.

The premise of the sitcom has parallels to Fey's real-life role on *SNL*; in "30 Rock," Fey's character Liz Lemon is the head writer of an NBC sketch comedy series called "TGS with Tracy Jordan." Alec Baldwin plays Jack Donaghy, Lemon's high-maintenance boss and confidant.

After "30 Rock" ended its run, Fey found further success as the co-creator of the Netflix comedy series "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" and as the author of *Bossypants*, her 2011 autobiography that topped the *New York Times* bestseller list for over 36 consecutive weeks. Among other life events, the book details her experience as a female producer and head writer.

Fey also co-hosted the Golden Globe awards from 2013-15 with her close friend and former SNL colleague Amy Pohler. Further, she wrote and acted in the hit comedy *Mean Girls* (2004) and later adapted the film into the book for the Broadway musical, which premiered in 2017. Finally, she served as an executive producer of the NBC comedy series "Great News." In 2010, she became the youngest recipient of the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

Around Hamilton's campus, many students, including Carson Goos '21, say they were excited when they learned Fey would be coming to campus.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NBC VIA GETTY IMAGES

Tina Fey (pictured above) served as a writer and cast member on the hit television comedy show *Saturday Night Live* from 1997 to 2006.

"I've loved her since watching '30 Rock,' and *Bossypants* was an amazing book!" says Goos.

"I'm so excited to hear her speak since it's guaranteed to be funny," says Alma Bradley '21.

"Even though I really like hearing political speakers for Great Names, I'm glad they are bringing in people from other professions as well to appeal to the interests of all Hamilton students," she adds.

Established in 1996 in recognition of a significant gift from the family of Alex Sacerdote '94, the main goal of the Sacerdote Great Names Series is to bring national and international leaders in business, government, science, and the arts to campus. Previous notable speakers in the series include Susan Rice, Aretha Franklin, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Derek Jeter, Hillary Clinton, Bill Clinton, Condoleezza Rice, Jon Stewart, Madeleine Albright, Rudy Giuliani, Colin Powell, Jimmy Carter, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Lady Margaret Thatcher, F.W. deKlerk, and David Cameron.

Class of 2023 embarks on first year with variety of orientation trips

by Ethan Tse '22
STAFF WRITER

Most of us probably remember how we felt the first time we ventured up the Hill as a Hamilton student — the uncertainty of the journey ahead in the back of our minds and the thought of not having to shower for five days at the forefront. Still, whether you entered with excitement, hesitation, or dread, many of us who completed first-year orientation left with lasting memories and friendships. This year, the Class of 2023 departed for their orientation trips on Wednesday, Aug. 21, and returned Sunday, Aug. 25.

Shap McCoy '23 was part of an Adirondack Adventure trip called "Grand Traverse," and says his favorite part was having lunch at the summit of Dix Mountain. He adds that the trip allowed him to bond with his classmates, and says he still keeps in contact with some of them.

Kelly Collins '21 led an Exploration Adventure trip called "Stay Tuned," which focused on the radio and music industry. The group toured local radio stations like KISS FM and WCNY and visited Subcat Studios in Syracuse. According to Collins, many in the group had a keen interest in music, so they really enjoyed seeing the various instruments and equipment in the recording studio.

The group also engaged in other fun activities like laser tag, a tour of the Saranac Brewery, and dinner at Dinosaur BBQ in Syracuse. They also made sure to spend plenty of time around campus to get the incoming first-years acquainted with the College's various spaces and their purposes.

While some trips like "Stay Tuned" tend to have a focus on learning, the main goal of all orientation trips is to bond with both fellow first-years and with their upperclass leaders.

Of her experience as a trip leader Collins says: "I loved being a leader and getting to help incoming first years and transfer/exchange students bond with a group of kids who had similar interests."

Gillian Driscoll '21 also reports having a positive experience leading her Adirondack Adventure trip "High Peaks," which she described as a "spicy hiking trip." Driscoll said highlight of the trip was summiting Mount Skylight, which stands at 4,925 feet in elevation. She adds that she had an extremely positive experience and that her group

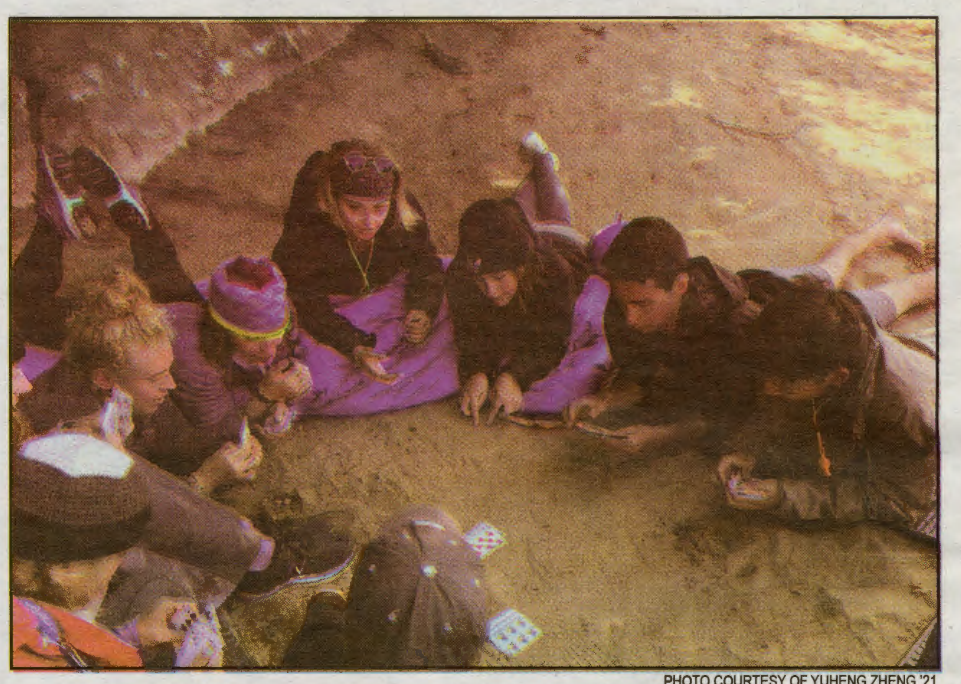

PHOTO COURTESY OF YUHENG ZHENG '21

61 orientation trips set off in mid-August with varying objectives but one shared goal of helping members of the Class of 2023 transition into college life.

members formed strong bonds with one another. She explains how both the leaders and the first-years in her trip had great attitudes towards everything they did.

"I really couldn't have asked for a better trip," she said.

As the Class of 2023 progresses through this semester and those to follow, they are bound to forge new relationships and connect with a variety of community members. Their orientation trips, however, mark the beginning of their Hamilton careers while simultaneously providing a base of friends to fall back on, making the exciting and anxious first days of college just a little bit easier.

Campus Activities Board hosts water-themed carnival, weather cooperates

by Maeve Sebold '22
Staff Writer

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) hosted its first event of the year, dubbed The Carnival, on Saturday, Aug. 31 from 2:30-5 PM. The Carnival, which was open to the entire Hamilton community and water-themed, featured inflatable activities, lawn games, and food.

For those new to Hamilton, CAB is a "student-run organization dedicated to bringing quality programming, including concerts, comedians, movies, and other special events to the Hill." CAB has an Executive Board (E-Board), whose members hold leadership positions and serve as event coordinators, and a General Board (G-Board), which consists of volunteers who provide assistance to E-Board members by helping staff and run events.

At the beginning of the school year last fall, CAB hosted a similar carnival; however, it was not specifically advertised as a "water" Carnival. This year, the intention was to take advantage of the warm weather with a variety of water-centric events. There were several inflatable games, including a nineteen-foot water slide, an obstacle course, and a dodging game with a rotating arm. CAB provided cotton candy, snow cones, popcorn, and ice cream, and students played games like cornhole, kan jam, and spikeball. Students took advantage of water theme, with many wearing swimsuits, bringing towels, and enjoying the aquatic endeavors available.

Alexia Assimakopolous '22 took appreciated the many activities offered and the warm weather. She said the carnival "had great music, weather, and vibes. It was super fun for the first weekend back on campus. I enjoyed all the bouncy activities, especially the one when you had to dodge the spinning arm."

Kritihika Ravishankar '22, CAB's On-Campus Special Events Coordinator, arranged the event. Appointed to the position last spring, Ravishankar said the Carnival was her first organized event. All the bookings had to be completed by the end of July in order to secure the many activities and games.

When planning the Carnival, Ravishankar had a few goals in mind. First, she wanted to advertise and design it specifically with a water theme to capitalize on the sunny weather. Second, she wanted it to be a fun activity for first-years.

"I remember during my first weekend on campus feeling a little at a loss for what to do," she said. "I wanted freshmen to have a fun activity during the day before all their assignments started to pile on."

Finally, she wanted the event to appeal to all class years as a fun kick-off to the start of the academic year. Based on the turnout, it did just that. It was apparent that the Carnival attracted all class years, including first-years.

Patrick Fleischer '23 said it was "a fun activity for the first weekend at school." He also thought it was "a good way to spend time outside in the warm weather."

Theo Karavolas '22 also enjoyed the Carnival.

"A bunch of my friends and I raced in the obstacle course and dodged the spinning arm," he said. Karavolas suggested that maybe for Class & Charter Day, CAB "could have some similar water activities."

According to CAB, the turnout for the water-themed Carnival means it will likely become an annual event that all students can look forward to in subsequent years.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JADE THOMAS '20

As a last goodbye to summer, CAB's Carnival featured a water slide, ice cream cones, and a fun obstacle course, among other outdoor events.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, August 29

12:46 A.M. Trouble Alarm – South Campus
1:29 P.M. Complaint – Eells House
3:38 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall
6:01 P.M. Assist – Griffin Road Apartments
10:12 P.M. Medical Emergency – Wallace Johnson Hall
10:39 P.M. Noise Complaint – Griffin Road Apartments
10:59 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Bundy East Residence Hall

Friday, August 30

12:34 A.M. Complaint – Minor Residence Hall
2:20 A.M. Concern for Welfare– Skenandoa Residence Hall
4:38 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall
8:11 A.M. Assist – Griffin Road
4:46 P.M. Suspicious Activity – Kennedy Arts Center
5:02 P.M. Fire Alarm – 4002A-B Campus Road

Saturday, August 31

1:00 P.M. Motorist Assist – Bundy West Residence Hall
2:16 P.M. Fire Alarm – Wertimer House
2:23 P.M. Trouble Alarm – 95 College Hill Rd
8:56 P.M. Area Check– Root Glenn
10:59 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Residence Hall

Sunday, September 1

12:01 A.M. Complaint – Babbitt Residence Hall
12:38 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Residence Hall
1:06 A.M. Medical Emergency – Skenandoa Residence Hall
1:50 A.M. Medical Emergency– Babbitt Residence Hall
9:05 A.M. Area Check – Wallace Johnson Hall
10:13 A.M. Fire Alarm – Saunders House
3:02 P.M. Medical Emergency – Campus Safety Building
6:24 P.M. Fire Alarm – 95 College Hill Rd
8:59 P.M. Medical Emergency – Keehn Residence Hall
11:00 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Major Residence Hall
11:42 P.M. Area Check – North Campus

Monday, September 2

12:01 A.M. Concern for Welfare – Dunham Residence Hall
1:27 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
6:24 P.M. Fire Alarm – Griffin Road Apartments
8:30 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall

In memoriam

Last week, Carole Bellini-Sharp, the Margaret Bundy Scott Professor of Theatre Emerita, passed away after 43 years of teaching on College Hill. A lot has been said about her in the days since she's passed, from students and colleagues alike, and it's been a joy to read about how many lives she transformed. You couldn't capture Carole in a couple hundred words, so I won't try to, but she meant the world to me and I wanted to honor her memory by writing something she'd almost certainly think was too earnest. So here goes.

Carole was extremely perceptive, sometimes eerily so, frequently giving her students advice before we knew we needed it. She delighted in packaging her thoughts alongside random onomatopoeia and big, animated faces. She was like if the smartest dissertation you'd ever read had all of its footnotes written in the Wingdings font.

She was also funny. Really funny. I first met Carole when I toured Hamilton as a senior in high school and she had me audit her Theater 201 class. Her students were working on Tristan Tzara's "The Gas Heart", an absurd little play in which each character is a body part personified: Eye, Nose, Neck, Eyebrow. Her students decided to perform the scene as if the body in question was having a massive orgasm and Carole, nonplussed (though not terribly impressed) by this decision, watched patiently as six of her students started writhing around, loudly moaning and grunting in unison. The whole thing lasted several minutes. When they were done, Carole turned to me and said, gently, yet fully aware that her students were listening: "Well, one thing's clear. None of these people have ever had good sex."

That was the first time Carole ever made me laugh out loud, though certainly not the last, and I applied Early Decision shortly thereafter.

Memories of Carole come to me in vivid, bright flashes of sight and sound. She laughed with her whole body, often jumping several octaves while doing so. I loved her laugh. She'd stay with you at rehearsal until 10 at night and write you follow-up emails at 4 in the morning, only to arrive at her 1 pm class the next day with more energy than any of her students. She'd make fun of you when you got too cocky and she'd grab your hand without warning when she sensed you were hurting. She could detect fear and ghosts with equal precision and navigated life with a deep respect for both. She believed in writing down the weird dreams you had at night but not sharing them with anyone else, because "why would you disrespect a dream by making it boring?"

I'm grateful for every second I got to spend with her. For the hours spent gossiping in her office or her classrooms. For the wisdom she dolled out like it was nothing; about theater, sure, but also about the big life stuff: jobs and love and marriage and health and death, why the Marx Brothers were important, why she never tried LSD, and when to buy fiddlehead ferns. She was profound, harsh, silly, gentle, sarcastic. Sometimes she was all of this at once.

She'll be in my heart forever - or, as we once cackled about over pancakes at Charlie's diner - perhaps she'll be reincarnated as a puddle on Martin's Way that will, in her own words, "haunt the shit out of people." I can hear her laugh at just the thought of it.

I loved her very much, and I'll miss her terribly.

Sincerely,
Wynn Van Dusen '15

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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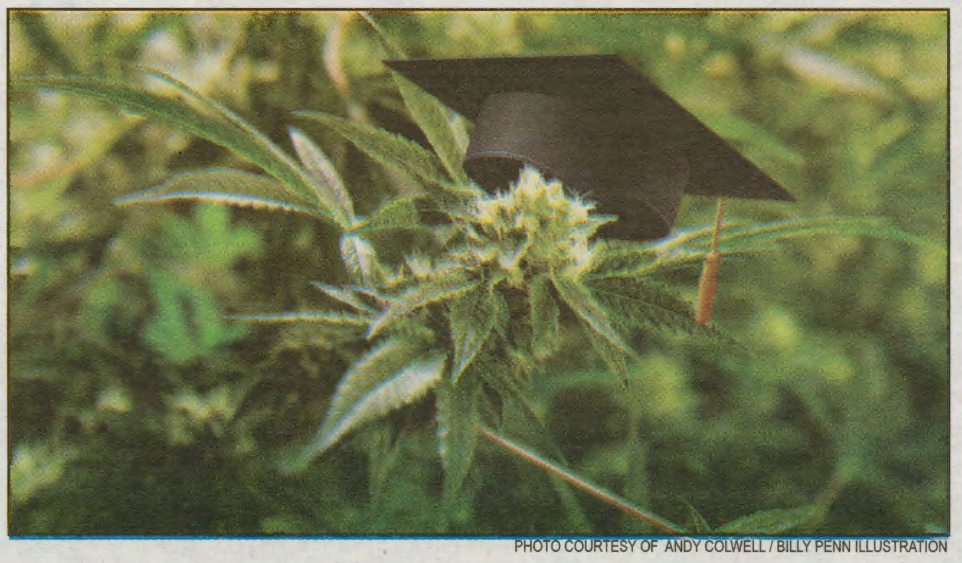
Pot predilections: how does Hamilton measure up when it comes to marijuana?

by Alex Reboredo '22
OPINION EDITOR



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Although illegal in New York State, pot remains popular; Hamilton College ranked near the top for weed use among students, according to *The Princeton Review*.

Finally, an accomplishment we can all revel in. For the release of their 2020 edition of "The Best 385 Colleges," *The Princeton Review* surveyed 140,000 students across those schools and asked, "How widely is marijuana used at your school?"

If you do not remember filling out that survey, the pot must be screwing with your memory because we made it on the list. Ranked at #20, Hamilton's got what *The Princeton Review* calls "Reefer Madness."

For some, that ranking may come with no surprise; like it or not, marijuana is prevalent on campus. According to the "Summary of Code of Student Conduct Violations" for the past academic school year, the violation affecting the most number of students — drum-roll please — was "possession or use of marijuana." And, if those two points weren't bad enough, six of those 25 students received an additional three points for a second violation of the College's drug policy on possession/use of marijuana. So, it's either we — the student body — smoke a lot, or Campo has a thing for collecting confiscated grinders, rolling papers, and other "paraphernalia."

Perhaps neither is the case. Marijuana, weed, pot, reefer, doobies, the devil's lettuce, or whatever you prefer to call it, has been around for generations and has been perceived negatively throughout the years. So why do we get all the bad street cred?

According to a study conducted by the University of Michigan in 2017, 38 percent of full-time college students aged 19 to 22 reported using marijuana at least once in the prior 12 months, and 21 percent reported using it at least once in the prior 30 days. Both of these usage levels peaked in 2016 — the highest finding since 1987 — and did not change significantly in 2017.

"The violation affecting the most number of students was "possession or use of marijuana.""

The 2017 percentages instead represent gradual increases since 2006, when usage was 30 percent for "the last 12 months" and 17 percent for "the last 30 days." This increase in usage more than likely parallels the decrease in the perceptions of risk from regular use. In 2017, only 27 percent of those aged 19 to 22 perceived regular use of marijuana as carrying great risk of harm. That percentage is the lowest it has been since 1980 — a year before the Reagan's "Just Say No" drug campaign.

So there's been an increase in smokers, but perhaps that's a given when marijuana legalization is at the forefront of our political debate. The bigger question: is this really a bad thing?

Throughout the years, public perception of marijuana use has fluctuated — from two to six percent of the polled population thought drug use was the nation's "number one problem" in 1985, while 64 percent said so in 1989, according to Drug Policy Alliance. This increase came from a number of different factors: the Reagan administration, draconian penalties in Congress and state legislatures regarding drug-related incidents, and the founding of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program, to name a few. After 1989, however, the population seemed to lose interest, and the number saying drug use was the country's number one issue decreased to 10 percent.

Currently, we are stuck in a tumultuous political climate where debates about marijuana can be the deciding factor for many voters. As more and more states legalize the use of marijuana — both medical and recreational — there will always be the perception of marijuana as harmful, mind-numbing, and a gateway drug. But, Hamilton potheads, fear not. We made that ranking, and we'll wear that number proud.

Push for progress in the voting process

by Eric Kopp '22
STAFF WRITER

Voting is the most essential part of our democracy. Looking through the Constitution, you can see that there are six amendments that specifically protect our right to vote.

As college students, we have two options: register to vote at home or here at Hamilton. No matter what you choose, we should be able to vote-by-mail; unfortunately, this is not a right everyone is entitled to.

In New York State, there is absentee voting, but you must have an excuse for not being able to physically vote on election day. These range from "absence from county or New York City on election day," to "permanent illness or physical disability."

New York recently passed an expansive voting reform law that allows for high school students to preregister to vote, nine days of early voting, and a single primary for federal and state elections. New York is the only state in the country to hold separate primaries for federal and state races.

Unfortunately, more important goals like same day registration and no-excuse absentee voting must be passed as constitutional amendments. This process is much more rigorous; the measure must be passed in two consecutive legislative sessions and then be approved by voters. This prevents these reforms from being implemented until 2021.

WIth such low voter turnout rates, it is important that we make voting as accessible as possible. Many states across the country are taking steps to actively encourage their citizens to actually get involved and vote.

New Jersey lawmakers recently passed a new bill dictating that everyone who voted-by mail in 2016-2018 automatically receives an election ballot in the mail. This will ensure that less frequent voters that voted in major federal elections, will still be involved in off-year election where the entire state government is up for election.

Colorado, Oregon, and Washington conduct all of their elections by mail. Critics might say that conducting elections in this manner might be much more expensive than conducting normal elections. In 2016, a study from the Pew Charitable Trusts found that Colorado cut their election administration costs by 40 percent over three years.

Another report from the National Vote and Home Institute found that states that conduct all their elections all by VBM had an increase of 10 percent in voter turnout. If voter turnout increased across the nation by that same percentage, 25 million more voters would come out and vote. 25 million more people deciding the path our country wants to take. That is the ideal we should aspire to.

When it comes down to it, everyone should have an equal opportunity to influence how our government functions. The decisions that are made from the federal level all the way down to local boards of education truly impact our communities and quality of life.

We as a nation have such a long way to go to make sure that every citizen not only has the right, but the opportunity to exercise their right to vote. But with the initiatives taken by New York and other states, I know we are starting down the path towards justice.

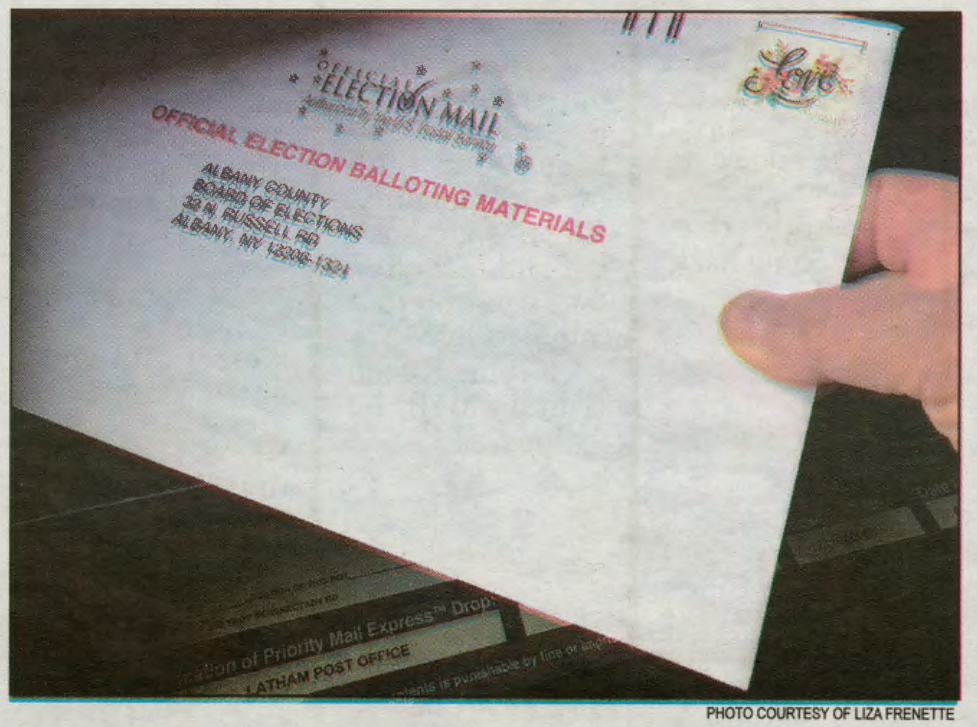


PHOTO COURTESY OF LIZA FRENETTE

New York voters may see a change in absentee voting policy in the coming months; Kopp argues this is for the best.

An elite mentality: how does self-esteem affect our perception of the College?

by Peter Case '21
Opinion Editor

I have never thought of myself as a particularly smart or gifted individual. Therefore, when I was admitted to Hamilton, I assumed that the Office of Admissions had made some horrible mistake admitting me instead of some other Peter Case. As a result, upon arrival on campus my freshman year, I connected my own lack of self worth with this institution, conflating my admission as a precocious meathead with a Hamilton's lack of quality as a college.

My sophomore year, I had a conversation with a classmate about Hamilton's shortcomings, centered mostly around grievances against the administration and our inability as a student body to host a party that lasts more than twenty minutes. I offhandedly remarked that this school was "not all that great," to which I was greeted with the defensive response, "we are ranked 16th in the country for liberal arts colleges."

I espouse a kind of anti-establishment rhetoric that is due to a few things: my anger at institutional flaws, my misanthropic attitude, and my general lack of respect for authority. However, I do think there is something to how we perceive this school — and, more importantly, how its esteem affects our own self-image— that can be damaging to both our appreciation of this place and our own mental health. Fair warning, much of this is coming from personal experience and may not apply to you. That is fine by me; I simply want to comment on what I've observed in my three years here.

The first problem that I see with infatuation with Hamilton's prestige is that it can justify choices that can be detrimental to mental health. The idea that because we attend an elite institution we must overcommit ourselves to different academic and extracurricular ventures causes us to perceive ourselves in opposition. In some cases, it is opposition with other students, breeding competition with our classmates until we are stressed to the point of not taking care of ourselves, in addition to evaluating our overworked and stressed selves as our best selves. I am not saying that ambition is unhealthy; rather, the notion that ambition is realized by outdoing one's peers, or upholding the supposed prestige of the College, can lead to under-appreciation of our needs as human beings.

In other cases, students derive value from opposition against the institution itself, choosing to engage in self-destructive behavior, such as excessive drinking or regular thievery, as a sort of rebellion against the status quo that is perceived as being imposed by Hamilton. Behavior and choices that harm the image of the college become a badge of pride, a sort of "F you" to the institution.

What this attitude neglects to consider is the incidental harm that occurs to fellow students and one's self when in that "F you" mindset. It creates a cycle of reactionary behavior — the administration cracks down on parties, students party harder, the administration cracks down even harder. This adversarial approach stems from many different sources, and I am not claiming that the College's reputation is the only driving force behind these behaviors. But I do think that students who are particularly disillusioned by the purported transparent corporate pandering of the institution may view rebellious behavior as their own mini-fight against Hamilton's elite image. I know I do.

Lastly, I think that the image of Hamilton as providing a better or more valuable education than other colleges and universities lends itself to a sense of superiority that is unmerited. I cannot count on both hands the number of times my fellow students, and occasionally myself, say the names of other universities with an implicit disdain, often unintentional, based on a notion that because we all boast good GPAs and standardized test scores in an arena as meaningless as high school leads us to believe that we are superior.

This behavior can leak outside of our insular community we have built for ourselves and spread to our interactions with other students at equally-worthy educational institutions. This is a dangerous game. Basing one's self worth on rankings and metrics from CollegeData.com is a fraught venture, and can lead to an unfounded sense of personal value that distracts from the things we should be focusing on as individuals, the qualities that we wish to pursue and our growth as citizens in a world larger than Clinton, NY.

But then again, what do I know? I am twenty years old and catch myself buying into these mindsets fairly regularly. I suppose the only thing I can do is to catch myself in the act of letting Hamilton define me instead of me defining Hamilton.

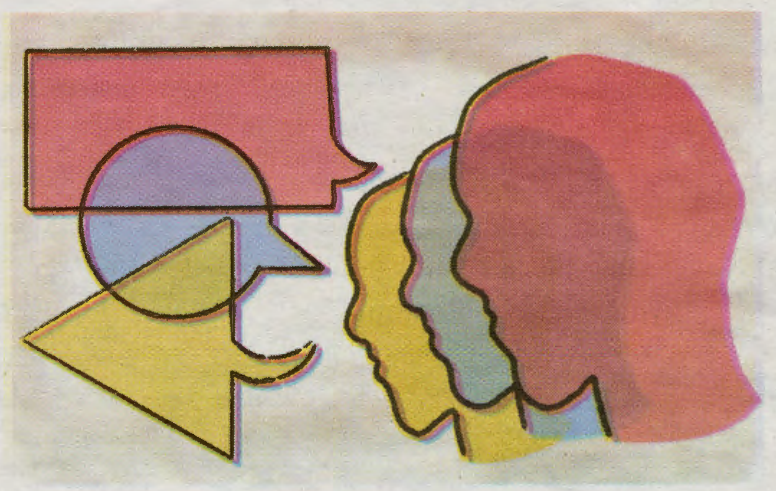
Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Babbit Benches Rats were nesting in them, they were covered in stains, and they always seemed to offer a place to spend the night to that one kid who showed up blackout but was never invited. I'm glad they're gone. I hope they never come back.	**Freshman Year** This place is just like summer camp until the winter comes and you're five months pregnant because AA doesn't put condoms in the med kits. Your rolled up jeans and tattered hoody won't hide your lack of a personality. But a snap-back hat and tucked in sweatpants just might. Give it a go, all your Keehn friends will be jealous.	**Your Spring Semester Abroad** "In Madrid they serve dinner at 10 p.m., sometimes eleven." "I did so well at my internship for my local congresswoman that she is going to let me oversee her pet iguana." "I was in Prague all semester and you never visited?" "So, about that break we took..."

by Peter Case '21

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Strongly opinionated?
Disagree with someone?
Think a certain issue isn't getting enough attention?

Write about it!



Email spec@hamilton.edu for more information!

The Spectator

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Cameron Baker '21

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMERON BAKER '20

Hometown: *Hingham, M.A.*
Home on Campus: *Minor 118, plus a timeshare in Bundy East.*
Major: *Economics.*
Turn on? *Sobriety, trail mix.*
Turn off? *Roommates who don't knock.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Anderson. Clean, quiet, and sterile.*
What's the last lie you told? *"I feel good about where my life is at right now."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Cringe humor.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Wow, I really like your Blundstones!"*
What's your type? *A nice lil' piece.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Tongue scrapers, organic farming, and low-level anxiety.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Bundy Dining Hall because I used to be fun but now I'm droll and lacking in substance.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *The trunk of my Honda Fit.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Boffers.*
What's your patronus and why? *A wet, shivering lamb as it's dragged to the slaughter.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Living a happy life characterized by healthy habits, positive relationships, and plenty of sleep.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *The Class of 2021. Also, poppers.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *The Class of 2020.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Dunetz, I guess.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Inés Corujo Martin.*
What would your perfect date be? *Linguine dinner, straight down to business, asleep by 9pm, squash at 7am the next morning.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Griffin Dunne.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *A Lack of Excel Spreadsheets in your H-Drive.*
What's the meaning of life? *Fuel efficiency.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off (major insecurities).*
What was your first thought this morning? **agonizing pain of existence**

Jojo Rinehart-Jones '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOJO RINEHART-JONES '20

Hometown: *New York, N.Y.*
Home on Campus: *Babbitt.*
Major: *Literature, Theatre.*
Turn on? *Guys who commit to a bit.*
Turn off? *People who aggressively quote Monty Python at you like it's some really niche thing they're testing you on.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *South because I look nice on the outside but my inner self is not up to code.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Dr Pepper's ill-fated "It's Not For Women" campaign.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Sitcoms that get progressively darker over the years.*
What's your type? *Guys who had unrequited crushes on their babysitters growing up.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *My laptop, my backpack, and the third pillow on my bed that I hug at night like it's a person.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Sadove basement because people's expectations get really high when they hear there's a pool table, but at the end of the day it's still a basement.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Ultimate Frisbee because they seem really supportive of each other and get to travel but not, like, too much.*
What's your patronus and why? *A fox because I shoplift.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *I would love to do away with the antiquated gender-blocking rule that says any dorm with over 60% capacity of women is legally a brothel. That way I could finally start my brothel.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Direct action.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *When people say someone's wearing a "bold" outfit just because they're like, not wearing jeans.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *The voice that repeats my words back to me when I say something in a large, empty room... who is she!?*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Professor Suzanne Taylor.*
What would your perfect date be? *He comes to Opus when I'm working, buys nothing, makes an excuse to talk to me for 20 minutes, and then tips me $15.*

How to navigate Hamilton's campus: 5 vital tips for students new and old

by Philip Marks '21
Staff Writer

Transitioning into college life can be very difficult for anyone. Everything around you in new and exciting. Luckily, these tips will help you excel at this whole college thing.

1. ABSOLUTELY keep and wear your lanyard everywhere. Not only is it a great fashion statement, it's also extremely functional. With your room key bouncing off your chest at all times you're practically guaranteed to never get locked out of your room. Because you should always be locking your room... right? Anyway, the lanyard will always remain a great touch, a nice dash of Hamilton apparel to an otherwise forgettable outfit.

2. Feed the squirrels. Those guys don't get enough love around here. They're nice and they *really* love the chicken fingers from Diner. I once brought one home attached to my finger. Friends come and go, but a squirrel will always be there for you. Always.

3. Do not drink ANYTHING during dry week. Occasionally the school opts for a parched mentality, as is the case during orientation week. When this happens, avoid all liquids, no matter your age. No beer, no wine, no OJ with breakfast, not even that really tempting blue Powerade in the KJ vending machine, and definitely no water. The side effects of drinking during dry week are still unclear — I'm told they're still running tests on the kids who dropped out of Intro Chem — but all signs point towards it being real bad. Like the subprime mortgages that caused the housing market to collapse in 2009 bad. Thanks Margot Robbie.

4. Diner C is a great option. Diner B gets all the hype, but every Thursday – Saturday, after Diner B closes, Diner C gets its chance to shine. From 4:30-5:30am, the Diner transforms into an old-school ice cream parlor. The lines are long — think Black Friday-before-the internet-long — but it's well worth the wait. It's a great way to start or end your day depending on how much of an over- or under-achiever you are.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

The squirrels also make great dorm pets! Highly doubt your roommate is allergic to them.

5. Walk into any suite, sit down, and have a conversation, because Hamilton students really are that friendly. Our school loves to preach about the community here, and it's almost more annoying because it's true. I once had a stranger drop all his books just to help me pick up mine. Turns out he didn't even go here! That's the Hamilton effect. So, go and do what any other Hamilton kid would and start up a conversation with some rando. Who knows! They might end up being just like everyone else here — your best friend.

Introducing the Hamilton Horoscope: First Week of Class Edition

by Jay Carhart '21
Contributing Writer

The first week of classes have begun, and you likely face some difficult decisions. Well, look no further than the astrological portents, and your questions will be answered. Find your birthday below to identify your sign.

January 20-February 18: **Aquarius**
February 19-March 20: **Pisces**
March 21-April 19: **Aries**
April 20-May 20: **Taurus**
May 21-June 20: **Gemini**
June 21-July 22: **Cancer**
July 23-August 22: **Leo**
August 23-September 22: **Virgo**
September 23-October 22: **Libra**
October 23-November 21: **Scorpio**
November 22- December 21: **Sagittarius**
December 22-January 19: **Capricorn**

Aquarius

You feel almost mythical at this point. Your sense of purpose has found itself within your soul. With the next full moon it will be time for a new you. Time to change completely, to be your best self, to fly away into the sunset on the back of fluttering butterfly. You deserve it.

Pisces

Its your cheat day. You worked real hard and life won't get any easier—have that third brownie. Drink that Opus coffee that you love to hate.

Aries

The closer you come to the future, the better the past looks. Keep an open mind and be excited for tomorrow. Life always finds a way, and you'll surely come across good times again.

Taurus

You're feeling confused, but don't worry. Saturn's moons cross tonight underneath a full moon. Everything will sort itself out with time. Confusion is only going to make everything clearer very soon.

Gemini

Don't keep to yourself, let others in. Or don't. I'm a horoscope, not the police. But you'll have to let others in past 11 p.m., when the residence hall doors lock for visitors.

Cancer

Life finds a way, and so will you. Take the road less travelled, then the more travelled one, and make a right after the Keybank. The more you explore, the more you'll understand and find yourself able to accept unfavorable outcomes. Setbacks are only small bumps on the journey toward a happier life.

Leo

Keep your soul attached firmly to your body. Venus and Mars are trying to pull each other apart, and you can feel it in your bones. Firmly plant your feet to keep yourself grounded as these two Roman gods try to force you apart. Their petty squabbles will only strengthen your resolve.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALMANAC.COM

Each of the twelve zodiacal signs represents a constellation that corresponds to a range of birthdays.

Virgo

Much like a lion waiting for its prey, patience will serve you well. Hold off until the moon's next earth cycle, and mother nature will reward you.

Libra

You're feeling industrius, start a business, hire a few friends, create a power hierarchy, develop synergy, time for a coffee run!

Scorpio

Honestly, you got this. You may be in four writing intensives or three labs this semester, but Pluto is at its apex. Anything is possible.

Sagittarius

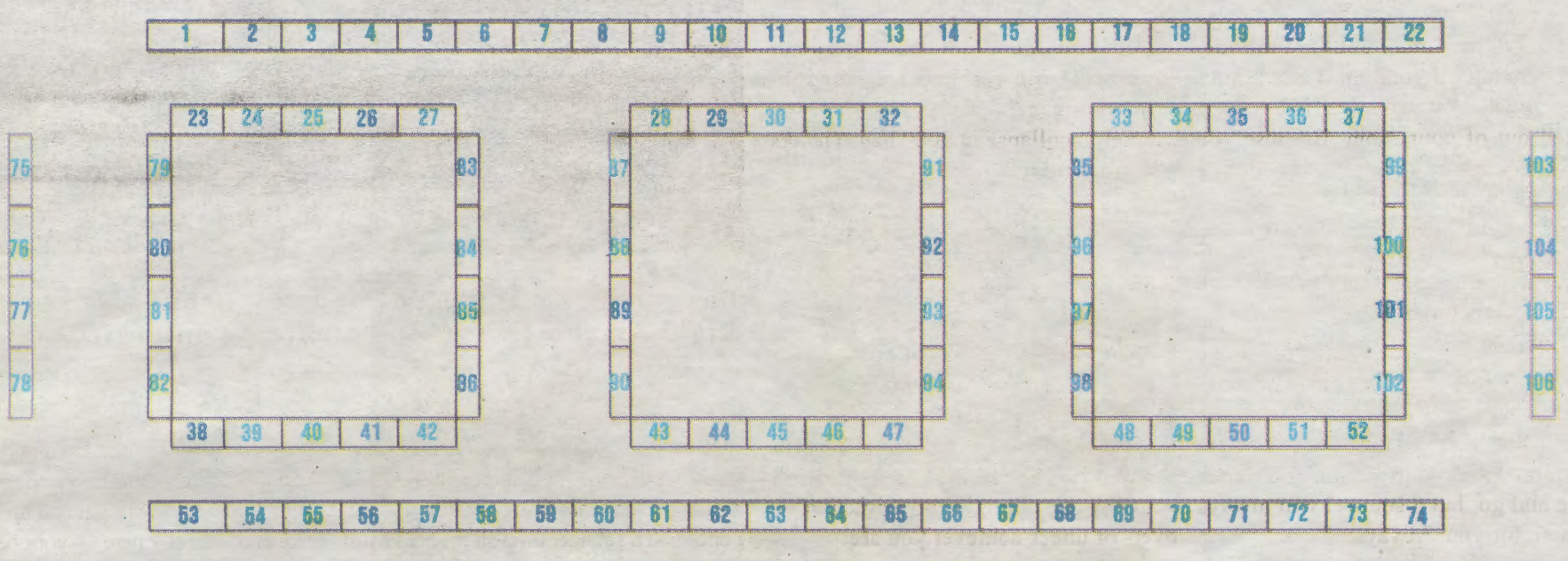
Someone is admiring you from a-far, though not too far, like the other table at Commons, or maybe they're just staring at the hydrated eggs falling from your mouth, either way, someone's interested.

Capricorn

Like how life finds a way, you will find a treasure map, a treasure map to happiness and sparkles, but that comes with a caveat of leaving everyone else behind. Maybe life is more than just the pirate booty?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ORGANIZATIONS FAIR

COMMONS SIDE



DUNHAM SIDE

PARTICIPATING ORGS

1 French Club / HEAT
2 Tropical Sol / Student Dance Alliance
3 Scottish Country Dancing / Tap That!
4 Untitled@Large
5 Vibes, Written & Spoken
6 Poetry Slam Club
7 Fellowship of Christian Athletes / Swimming Club
8 Equestrian Team / Club Water Polo
9 Alpine Ski Team
10 Fencing Club
11 Powder Club
12 Running Club / Nordic Ski Team
13 Club Curling Team
14 Model United Nations
15 WHCL Radio Station
16 The Spectator
17 Green Apple
18 The Topical / Red Weather
19 Circle Magazine
20 Signature Style
21 The Continental
22 The Duel Observer
23 Association for Women in Mathematics / History Club
24 Mathletics / Space Society
25 Society of Physics Students
26 Women in STEM / Classics Club
27 Hamilton Geological Society
28 Figure Skating Club
29 Sailing Team
30 Volleyball Club
31 Women's Club Soccer
32 Club Hockey
33 TEDx
34 GNAR Club
35 African Continentals (Africons) / International Students Association (ISA)
36 Culture Magazine (formerly Grasping Roots)
37 Voices of Color Lecture Series (VCLS)
38 HAVOC
39 Her Campus
40 Minds for Change
41 Philanthropy Committee
42 Peer Counselors
43 Hamilton Chabad
44 All Beliefs Union
45 Hillel
46 Shenandoah-Kirkland Initiative
47 Vegan Club
48 Emerson Literary Society (ELS)
49 Hogwarts at Hamilton
50 Gaming Club
51 Super Smash Bros Club
52 La Vanguardia
53 Clinton Fire Department
54 Hamilton College EMS
55 Hamilton Wishmakers
56 Helping Hands
57 Positive Thinking Club
58 Red Cross Club
59 HAAND
60 Global Health Organization / Slow Food
61 EmPower Moves
62 The Harvest
63 Strong Girls
64 On the Move
65 Culinary Society
66 Hamilton Aquaponics
67 Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG)
68 People Who Like to Do Fun Things
69 Conspiracy Theorists Club
70 Novelists Support Group
71 Boffer/LARP Club
72 Role Playing (RPG) Club
73 Beekeeping
74 Pottery Club
75 Band Club
76 Hamilton College Wind Ensemble (HC Winds)
77 Debate Society
78 Finance Club
79 Spanish Club
80 Yodapez
81 Micro-Finance Group
82 Mock Trial
83 DART & Overnight Admissions Hosting
84 First Year Experience (FYE)
85 Alternative Spring Break (AXB)
86 Residence Life Ras
87 Women in Politics
88 Hamilton Christian Fellowship
89 Bridge
90 College Democrats
91 Club Ultimate Frisbee
92 Hamilton Rugby
93 Film Club
94 Anthropology Club
95 Anime Club
96 Kendo Club
97 Asian Student Association (ASA) / SMART
98 League of Legends Club
99 Black & Latinx Student Union (BLSU)
100 Queer Student Union (QSU)
101 Womxn's Center
102 Feminists of Color Collective (FCC)
103 Student Assembly
104 HamVotes
105 Campus Activities Board (CAB)
106 Sadove Programming & Late Nites

FRIDAY, SEPT 6TH
12 PM - 2PM
DUNHAM GREEN TENT

Movie Review: *Her Smell*

by Jane Nealey '21
A&E Contributor

Save for the select few independent films that manage to break the popular bubble of the film industry and achieve a relative amount of success and name recognition, not many "indies" reach the consciousness of the general public. Inevitably, there are scores of brilliant films that end up unseen and underappreciated.

One of those criminally-underseen films is Alex Ross Perry's *Her Smell*. The film stars an enigmatic Elisabeth Moss as Becky Something, a rockstar who is in over her head amidst the downfall of her waning stardom. *Her Smell* is a chronicle of her life and career, told across a series of vignettes that span ten years; it is one of the most bombastic, arresting, and immersive films of the year.

Each vignette has an in-the-moment urgency, wherein the mental and physical state of Becky is betrayed not only through Moss' performance but through the energy of the camera as well. At its most manic and hyperactive, visuals flash across the screen in a disorienting manner, eliciting a cinematic experience that channels the mental state of the film's frontwoman.

Moss' performance is a classic tour-de-force; she carries her character through her highs and lows in a way that is as captivating as it is alarming. Coming off of her recent success in *A Handmaid's Tale* and a scene-stealing run in Jordan Peele's *Us* from earlier this year, Moss is at her most raw and uninhibited in *Her Smell*.

While Moss is busy being an absolute revelation as the just-past-her-prime rocker and frontwoman, what really pulls the film together as a successful piece is the supporting cast. Agyness Denn (*Clash of the Titans*) and Gayle Rankin (*GLOW*, *The Greatest Showman*) lead the secondary cast, giving stellar performances as Becky's bandmates who stay beside her as she unravels. Denn, in particular, serves as the heart of the ensemble. She is a steady figure who counterbalances a film that feels like it is unravelling as quickly as the woman at its center. Denn pulls off the monumental feat of establishing herself as a standout despite the powerhouse performance that Moss delivers.

The rest of the cast also delivers a slew of impressive performances. Notable standouts include Cara DeLevigne, Ashley Benson, and Dylan Gelula as the bright-eyed protegés following in the footsteps of Becky's punk rock group and Amber Heard as a fellow rockstar who turns to commercial success, powering through the chip on Becky's shoulder in order to support her even at her cruelest.

Perry's smart direction propels the film with an impressive emotional thruline, which otherwise might feel too erratic or aggressive; he manages to craft an empathetic and affecting portrait of the woman and the people who love her despite it all.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW YORKER

Elisabeth Moss stars as Becky Something in *Her Smell*.

Aside from its performances, the strongest part of the film is how unabashedly it leans into its musical performances. Similar films might shy away from extended music sequences at the risk of being written off as a "movie-musical." Perry instead lets *Her Smell*'s musical moments linger, grounding them in the manic energy of the film in the same way that music grounds its lead characters in the relative disarray of their lives. This shines through in the most emotionally honest (and best) scene of the film, in which Moss delivers a stirring rendition of Bryan Adams' "Heaven" that cuts to the core of her character.

Her Smell is a complex, invigorating, uncomfortable, and empowering ride, helmed by Moss's career-making performance. The film is a testament to the power of a female support system and the persistence of those who love and surround Becky as she spirals into self-destruction and pushes them away.

The film is a challenging watch but wildly rewarding as well. Do not be surprised if you see Moss's name popping up amidst dark horse Oscar contenders in the coming months.

Her Smell is available everywhere on digital platforms now.

Television's summer slate captivates audiences

by Katherine Kim '22
Staff Writer

From thrillers to historical narratives, this past summer delivered a variety of excellent shows for people to watch during their free time. Some gave long-awaited continuations to previous seasons, while others premiered to great success. Despite the differences in genre and runtimes, each one felt fresh and exciting, while offering plenty of quality material.

At the start of the summer months, FX released the sophomore season to *Pose*, a critically-acclaimed drama that depicts the triumphs and struggles of black and brown members of the LGBTQ+ community at the end of the twentieth century. The first season featured ballroom scenes where various characters delivered campy performances with elaborate dress and dance. Over the course of the season, characters receive recognition for their performances but simultaneously face countless social injustices outside the world of ball, including fetishization and transphobia.

With its newest episodes, *Pose* jumps forward a decade to provide an eye-opening glimpse into how the non-white sectors of the LGBTQ+ community reacted to the cultural commodification of ball scenes and the movement to raise AIDS awareness. Characters who found massive success as ball performers in the first season now audition as mere backup dancers for Madonna, who is identified as a key person to first commodify ball dances, specifically "voguing." Others apply their talents into professional sex work, intending to create a successful business from their clients' interests. Some characters, sick of the suffering their loved ones experience with the contraction of AIDS, begin a career in activism, giving speeches and throwing fundraisers to ensure that the world can know and help those with the disease.

Pose's second season is more serious than the first — there's misery in the air from the frequent AIDS-related deaths and a biting cynicism from characters whose passion — the ball scene — has been watered down into a ghost of what it once was. However bleak it may feel, though, *Pose*'s second season ultimately succeeds in highlighting the dark atmospheres in this overlooked but important period of history, educating viewers on the loss and the legacy of the era.

Amazon Prime Video soon joined the summer release train by dropping *Good Omens*, a miniseries based off of the magical realism novel created by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett two decades ago. Though it depicts a conflict between Heaven and Hell, the show rarely gets serious, delivering heaps of situational irony and tongue-in-cheek humor at well-known figures in both religion and history. In this world, angels indulge in materialism by eating crêpes, and demons influence Western culture by popularizing Shakespeare's "Hamlet," while infamous witches about to be burned at the stake humiliate their hunters by yelling about their adulterous predilections.

Then there is God's Great Plan — an apocalypse to end all of humanity. The protagonists of *Good Omens*, an angel and a demon who have grown to respect each other over the generations, do not obey the Plan, as they both have a strong fondness for humans. This turns out to their detriment when they have to act as key agents in the Great Plan by handling the coming of the Antichrist, resulting in wildly entertaining shenanigans that include confronting demonic nuns and accidentally turning London's M25 highway into a ring of deadly fire.

Though the show strives for an overall humorous tone, it still has some serious moments, especially concerning the strong relationship between the angel and the demon. In one scene where the demon rushes to the angel's home to find it burned down and the angel gone, one can clearly see from the grief on his face that he cares for the angel deeply. *Good Omens*, despite drawing from heavy-handed materials, still presents a lighthearted-yet-poignant tale that anyone can enjoy.

BBC America dropped the second season of *Killing Eve* between the days of late spring and early summer, leaving watchers to stream all the episodes over the next three months. *Killing Eve* depicts the twisted relationship between a detective and an assassin for hire. The first season consists of the detective relentlessly chasing the assassin, a pursuit that fuels her unhealthy fascination with psychopathic murderers, putting a strain on her marriage and her friendships. The assassin, on the other hand, feels flattered that she has a person tracking her work and steadily grows fascinated by the detective.

Though the detective and the assassin both try to forget the other in the second season, their mutual obsession for each other only grows as time progresses. The assassin now tries to gain the detective's attention with extravagant killings and postcards from her murder locations, while the detective tries to rebuild the social bridges she burned when chasing the assassin, but constantly thinks about the thrill of chasing the assassin down. Obsession does not only taint the two protagonists; another character subtly disguises the fact that he likes watching people die and another character is infatuated with dolls to the point where he imprisons people in his house and orders them to act like dolls themselves. The new season ultimately shows the effects of unhealthy fixations on people, leaving viewers with a chilling-yet-interesting investigation of human behavior. Despite its alarming material, *Killing Eve* is an engrossing series with the potential to ironically turn into an obsession itself.

All of the summer television releases listed above did not disappoint in the slightest. Though they existed in different settings and genres, each show nevertheless delivered compelling plots and unique character perspectives, keeping viewers engaged throughout the summer holidays.

A cappella serenades students into semester

by Karina Bayrakdarian '21
A&E Editor

On Wednesday, Aug. 28 and Friday, Aug. 30, all five of Hamilton's a capella groups welcomed first-year students to campus with a concert in Wellin Hall at 7 PM.

On Wednesday, Duelly Noted — an all-gender a capella group — performed first. The group's range of musical styles has been its calling card in performances both on- and off-campus since its founding in 2008. By combining songs with creative choreography, they boast a unique repertoire for every show.

Duelly Noted kicked off the concert with a performance of "Past Lives" by BØRNS, followed by "The Valley" by Betty Who, and "Make this Leap" by The Hunts. The group closed with a playful rendition of "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," which featured solos by Kaylee Davis '22, Megan Buiocchi '20, SJ Kudzin '22, and Emily Midgley '21.

Special K, Hamilton's oldest all-women a capella group, performed next.. They started off with "Cry Me A River" by Justin Timberlake, which featured soloists Josie Blatt '21 and Sara Jadbabaie '21. Abby Goodman '21 followed with "You Know I'm No Good" by Amy Winehouse. Two sophomores took the lead in the last two songs. Aimee Booth '22 started with an emotional performance of "Say You Love Me" by Jessie Ware, and Carina Krussell '22 closed with a saucy solo rendition of "Good Kisser" by Lake Street Dive.

The Hamiltones, Hamilton's oldest co-ed a cappella group, followed Special K. Lead by soloist Ally Millar '22, the group commenced their performance with "Honeymoon Avenue" by Ariana Grande,. The second song was a group performance of "Hide and Seek" by Imogen Heap. They ended their set with "Who Knows Who Cares" by Local Natives, which featured a moving solo by Christopher Albino '20.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSIE BLATT '21

Special K is Hamilton's oldest women's a cappella group. Their set featured alternative, pop, jazz, and R&B music.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLY MILLAR '22

The Hamiltones is Hamilton's oldest co-ed a cappella group. Their set featured pop, alternative, and electronic music.

The next group to perform was Tumbling After. Founded in 1998, Tumbling After is the College's youngest all-women group. Their signature look features a daisy tucked behind the right ear of all performers. Olivia Wenzel '21 and Rachel Lee '22 led the first group song — an upbeat performance of "No Roots" by Alice Merton. The second song in their set, "Alone" by Jessie Ware, included solos from Anna Lyndaker '21 and Amalia Tobias '21. After performing "Not Ready to Make Nice" by Dixie Chicks, Tumbling After finished off their set with "Superstition" by Stevie Wonder, which featured solos from Libby Militello '22 and Isabel Royer '20.

The Buffers, Hamilton's oldest and only all-men a capella group, were the final group to take the stage. They kicked off their set with "Actually Al Ham," the College's old fight song, which pokes fun at life on the Hill. Next, the group sang "Used to Love U" by John Legend with a stirring solo by Jack Grossi '22. Matty Jackmauh '22, Jonathon Shakespeare '22, and Danny Berger '20 followed with leading solos in a passionate performance of "I Want It That Way" by Backstreet Boys that left audience members cheering. Afterwards, the Buffers performed their signature comedy bit, "If I Were Not a Buffer…," which makes light of campus culture — from the erratic weather to a nature report covering the different types of WASPS on campus. The group capped off the evening with the love ballad "Signed, Sealed, Delivered, I'm Yours" by Stevie Wonder.

All five a cappella groups are looking forward to accepting new students into their groups for the 2019-20 school year.

Hamilton College presents dozens of arts events each semester. Here are some upcoming events, plays, concerts, and recitals to look forward to from student performers, faculty performers, and outside groups!

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

Fall Faculty Concert
Friday, Sept. 6 in Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM

The concert features faculty members both singing and playing a variety of instruments. The event is open to off-campus guests.

Elias Sime: Tightrope | Exhibition Opening Talk & Reception
Saturday, Sept. 7 in Wellin Museum at 2:30 PM

The Wellin Museum will unveil their newest exhibit, *Tightrope*. The exhibit will feature work from Elias Sime, an Ethiopian artist who repurposes electronic materials to make intricate and detailed tableaus. The event will commence with a talk at 2:30 PM, followed by an opening reception at 4:00 PM.

Jazz Kickoff Concert
Wednesday, Sept. 11 in Wellin Hall at 9:00 PM

Jazz concert featuring Leonard C. Ferguson Professor of Music Michael "Doc" Woods and notable jazz musicians from the area. The event is open to off-campus guests.

Ustad Shafaat Khan Concert
Friday, Sept. 20 in Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM

Classical and folk music concert featuring Ustad Shafaat Khan, an acclaimed Indian musician that's performed all over the globe. The event is open to off-campus guests.

Family Weekend Performance
Saturday, Sept. 28 in Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM

The College invites families to attend a concert featuring Hamilton's a cappella groups, Choir, Dance and Movement Studies Department, Jazz Ensemble, and Orchestra. The event is open to the public.

Tempesta di Mare Concert
Saturday, Oct. 5 in Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM

Philadelphian baroque orchestra Tempesta di Mare presents *A Tale of Two Cities: Chamber Music from Venice and Naples*, a concert that reflects attributes of both cities and their respective operas. The event is open to off-campus guests.

Chimpanzee
Friday, Oct. 25 and Saturday, October 26 in Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM

Chimpanzee is a puppet play inspired by true events. The performance follows an old chimpanzee who was raised by a human family and is now trying to remember the past as she lives in isolation. The event is open to the public.

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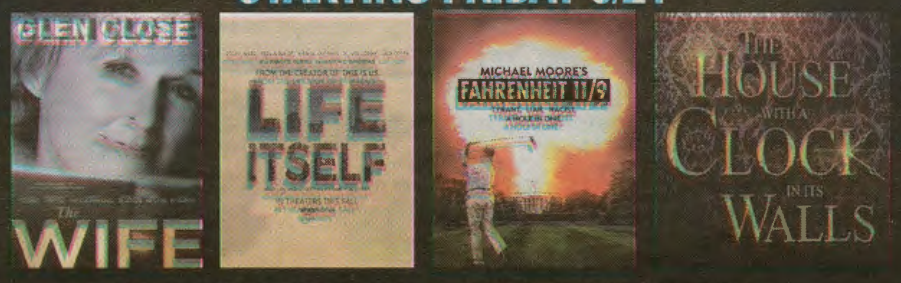

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Movie-watching at the Oneida Movieplex has just been taken to a whole new level of comfort and relaxation. The Oneida Movieplex is thrilled to announce the installation of luxury plush, fully reclining chairs that provide audiences with a first-class movie watching experience. Moviegoers can lean back and relax as they enjoy a premium recliner that features a powered push button recline mechanism and superior leg room for extra comfort. All nine auditoriums in the complex now boast reclining chairs.

In addition to the plush recliners, the Oneida Movieplex is also offering $5 movie tickets for all showtimes before noon, $5 tickets all day Tuesday and $1 small popcorn with each admission on Wednesdays. Kick back in the new recliners and take advantage of the ultimate movie viewing experience and wide selection of films that the Oneida Movieplex offers. Upcoming movies include Fahrenheit 11/9, The Wife, The House With a Clock in Its Walls, Life Itself, Night School, Small Foot, A Star is Born, Venom, Goosebumps, Halloween, The Nutcracker and the Four Realms, Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, Ralph Breaks the Internet, Mary Poppins Returns and Aquaman.

With all the fabulous movies being released we hope that everyone will come out and experience the thrills and escapism that only movies can offer.

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Fall Sports 2019 Preview

Women's Soccer

by Julia Rowland '21
Sports Contributor

The Hamilton College women's soccer team is looking to build off their success last season (8-5-3, 4-4-2 NESCAC) despite the loss of two-time All-NESCAC selection, Katie McKillop '19. Without McKillop in the backfield the team depends on Kristin Hughes '20, Aidan Leahey '22 and goalkeeper Rachel Pike '21. As for the offense, leading scorer (11 goals, 25 points) and Second Team All-NESCAC selection, Cat Gambino '21, returns and is surrounded by a very talented, eager-to-win group of teammates which include Kayleigh Harris '20, Kayleigh Miller '21, Sydney Kim '21, among others. With a large crop of first-year players, the women's soccer team looks poised to make a playoff run and have a successful season. Don't miss their first game on the new Love Field against Bates College on Sept. 7 at 11:00 AM.

Jefri Schmidt '20 scored two goals to secure a Continental's win at their home opener against SUNY Oswego this Tuesday.

Football

by Julia Rowland '21
Sports Contributor

The Hamilton football team is coming off of a 3-6 season during which they won hard-fought games against Wesleyan University, Bowdoin College, and Bates College. The Continentals look to do even better this season. The offense is led by senior quarterback Kenny Gray '20, who will be looking to his trustworthy receivers Joe Schmidt '20 and Will Buddington '21 to put up points on the board. Not to be forgotten are the abundance of talented running backs who look to drive the ball into the endzone. Last season, Joe Park '22 and Mitch Bierman '21 (limited by injury) led the team on this front and look ready to do so again. The Continental's defense led the NESCAC rankings last season with 13 interceptions and the Continentals are looking for even more this season. Carmine Bruno '20, Sam Bowen '20, and Justin Leigh '20 are all returning to lead the Continetal's backfield to success. Hamilton's first home football game is against Wesleyan University on Sept. 21 at 1:00 PM.

Volleyball

Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The women's volleyball team is working towards a fresh start after a tough 2018 rebuilding season (8-13, 1-9 NESCAC). The Continentals only graduated two seniors, and have brought in two new first-year players Deirdre Corrigan '23 and Sophia Bernstein '23 are both prepared to contribute immediately to the team. Defensive specialist Kendall Searcy '20 is ready to return after missing last season while studying abroad. Other crucial returners are libero Nikki Matsuoka '21, who finished fourth in the league last season in digs per set (5.25), as well as the top three on the team in kills per set: Dorothy Poucher '21 (2.26), Giuliana Rankin '20 (2.21), and Emma Parkhurst '21 (2.05). The team, along with third-year head coach Kristin Baker and second-year assistant Sam Haimann, are very hopeful for and motivated to achieve a finish among the top of the talented league this season. Their first home NESCAC match is on Sept. 21 at 2:00 PM against Trinity College in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Men's Soccer

Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The Continental's men's soccer team is ready to get back to the NESCAC Championship semifinals for the fourth year in a row. Last season the men's team went 9-7-1 and 4-5-1 in the NESCAC. They return with most of their high impact players from last year, including Thomas Benson '22. Benson, who took over as goalkeeper after Linds Caldwell '20 suffered a season-ending injury, finished second in the NESCAC in save percentage (.908). Also important to Hamilton's men's team's defense and back on the team this year is co-captain Luke Engels '20, who has been named First Team All-Region twice in his career. The team will likely be able to recreate past success and push further as they have retained eight of the ten players who scored at least one goal in 2018. This includes All-NESCAC Second Team selection, Aidan Wood '20, co-captain Jefri Schmidt '20, and leading scorer Roth Wetzel '22. Their Sept. 7 home game against Bates College at 1:30 PM will benefit Go4TheGoal, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of children battling pediatric cancer.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Wide receiver Joe Schmidt '20 had 472 yards and 2 touchdowns last season and looks to be a force again this fall.

Men's and Women's Golf

Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The men's and women's golf teams have four and five tournaments, respectively, during their fall seasons which include the NESCAC Championship Qualifier. The women's team graduated only one senior and have five new first-year golfers who add to a talented group of returners including Sophia Archos '21 and Emily Moy '22. In their shorter spring 2019 season, the women's team finished in 1st place in the Ithaca Invitational tournament and in 7th place at Amherst's Jack Leaman Tournament. Similarly, the men's team is looking to build on their successful 2018-19 year. Milan Matneja '22 was named NESCAC Rookie of the Year and a member of the All-NESCAC First Team in the spring. Another returner, Jack Habeeb '22, was named to the Second Team. The men's team also welcomes three first year additions to their already-strong roster. Both teams are set for very competitive seasons, and both begin the season with the St. Lawrence Invitational in Canton, N.Y. on Sept. 7 and 8.

The Continentals are ready to compete!

Men's Cross Country

Max Steffey '22
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Men's cross country has a serious shot at a solid placing on the conference or regional level this season. With both a huge returning senior class and plenty of motivated freshman, the guys have plenty of the necessary experience and drive to place well at all of their invitationals. Captains Pete Ross '20 and Jake Colangelo '20 plan to lead the pack this year and create a competitive scoring group of runners. Particularly motivated after recovering from spring injury and illness, both have built a strong summer training foundation, and they are ready to tackle some fast times while pushing teammates to succeed. Returners Bryce Murdick '20 and Lucas Wright '21 led the team last year, helping Hamilton to score well at meets. This season the two are more driven than ever with the addition of a huge freshmen class and large amounts of new potential. Nick Lyon '22 and Chris Skeldon '20 seek to continue where they left off, as they ran terrifically last season, placing high on the team as well. Max Steffey '22 was out for the majority of the season last year but certainly seems to be pushing for a top spot this time around. As for the rest of the team, there is plenty of new and old skills that will serve the Continentals well on their journey to a top spot in the 'cacs.

Men's and Women's Rowing

Jo Dine '22
SPORTS EDITOR

Hamilton men's and women's rowing are both coming off impressive fall 2018 and spring 2019 seasons. The women's team came in first place in two of their four fall races last season. In the spring, they finished top three in six of their eight races. The team qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships in Indianapolis, I.N., where they finished in sixth place. Luckily, only two women rowers graduated in 2019, and the team returns with most of their crucial members such as All-NESCAC selections Ann-Sophie Koglin '20 and Perrin Salewood '21. The men's team also had a solid spring season, coming in either first or second place in four different races. Similarly, they only had two seniors graduate and, with first-year additions as well, will be looking to repeat and surpass their success of last year. The men's and women's teams both have three races this fall, the first of which is the Head of the Genesee regatta in Rochester, N.Y. on Oct. 5.

Field Hockey

Catherine McFarland '22
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's field hockey team is looking to start the season under the motto "New Faces, Same Drive." They hope to improve upon their stellar season last fall, during which they finished with a 10-6 record and hosted the NESCAC Championship quarterfinals. The team was ranked 18th in the nation in the national Division III preseason poll. They will be led by returning All-American Michaela Giuttari '20 who scored 16 goals and had 39 points, and who finished fourth in the NESCAC in points last season. Senior captain Lizzie Clarke '20 and junior Sarah Pierpont '21 will also be key players for the Continentals' offense. The team has six upperclassmen and 17 underclassmen on their roster. The strong sophomore class added women's ice hockey player Lexi Taxishima '22 and Layne McKeown '22, a transfer student from Georgetown. Additionally, the seven new first-years look to be a force on the team. Sophomore goalkeeper Maggie Reville '22 noted, "people might be underestimating us because we are young, but we will come out with fresh legs and a new energy." Come see that new energy at their first home game on Wednesday, Sept. 4 against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Goodfriend Field at 7:00 PM.

Women's Cross Country

Liza Greene '22
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The women's cross country team is entering this fall season with a strong pack determined to rise in both the region and NESCAC rankings. They are currently seeded seventh in the Atlantic Region, and have a stacked team of strong-minded women. Captains Courtney Brunet '20 and Katie Cronin '21 will lead the team this season by fostering motivation and an energized and excited team dynamic. Both captains, as well as other seniors Erin Schwartz '20 and Ellie Williams '20, encourage the team with their well-built summer training foundation and dedication to improving their endurance and strength every day. First years Olivia Holbrook '23 and Katie Jenkinson '23 are exciting new additions who both have the potential to contribute immensely to the team's success throughout the season. This season's focus is on a team-based style of running. They hope that by both training and racing in this "pack," they will constantly propel one another and ultimately place a large portion of the team towards the front of the competition. With their powerful base, building speed and positive mindset, the women's cross country team appears to be a force as they head into their fall competition season.

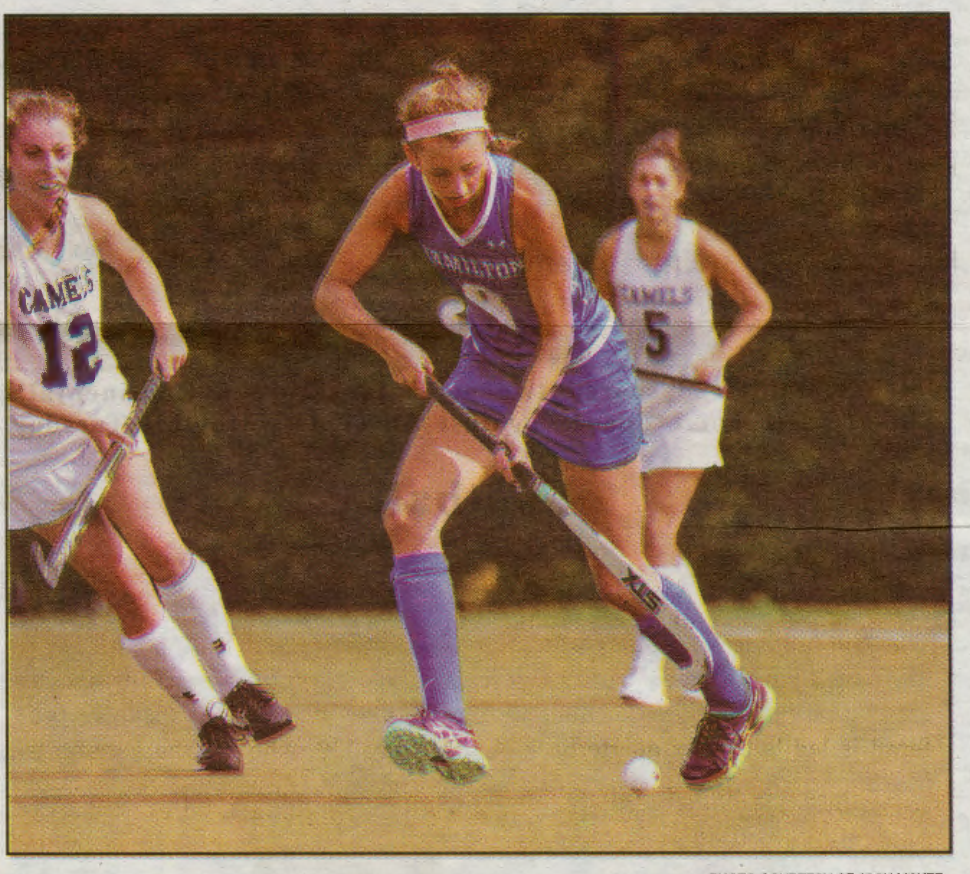

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Two-time All-American Michaela Giuttari '20 scored five game-winners and a total of 16 goals to lead the team last season.

Men's and Women's Tennis

Jo Dine '22
SPORTS EDITOR

The Continental men's and women's tennis teams are gearing up for their fall seasons to compete against regional opponents such as Utica College, St. Lawrence University, and Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Luckily, Hamilton's teams only graduated two seniors each, and much of their NESCAC and overall success during their spring season came from impressive first-years and sophomores, including Joe Reiner '22, Danny Tsyvin '22, and Max Zimmerman '21 on the men's team, and Sophia Aulicino '21, Audrey Chor '21, and Kat Roberts '22 on the women's team. The women's team also finished nationally ranked at No. 40 in Division III tennis, and both teams earned Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Academic Team awards. They will surely be two exciting teams to watch all year, especially later on during the competitive NESCAC matches. Their seasons kick off at William Smith's Mary Hosking Invitational in Geneva, N.Y. for the women and at the St. Lawrence Classic in Canton, N.Y. for the men, both on Sept. 7.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
September 5, 2019

Athlete of the Week: Giuliana Rankin '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Nicknames: G

Hometown: San Diego, CA

Sport: Volleyball

Favorite Professional Athlete: Kerri Walsh Jennings

How you got introduced to volleyball: My friends kept telling me I should play volleyball because of my height. Finally in my sophomore year of high school, I decided to try out for the team.

Favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport: Spend time with my friends, sleep, and go to Diner!

What attracted you to Hamilton's volleyball program: What really sold me on the Hamilton volleyball program was seeing the team chemistry on my visit. The team was just filled with so many amazing people and I wanted to be a part of that culture.

What is the toughest obstacle you have had to overcome in your athletic career: My sophomore year, I had very bad tendinitis in my shoulder which impacted my level of play the court since I am a hitter.

How has the program evolved over the past four years: During my sophomore year, we got a new head coach and assistant coach. In my junior year, we again got a new assistant coach. Our new coaches have made a lot of changes (for the better) and now we are all working to rebuild the program.

What has been your favorite sports moment at Hamilton: Seeing my friends supporting me at my games and going to support them at their games as well.

What are you looking forward to in your senior season: I'm looking forward to a competitive season and hopefully winning a lot of games!

A Continentals vs. Bobcats Weekend

Games to watch this Saturday

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Women's and men's cross country have their first home meet this Saturday, Sept. 7 at 11:00 and 11:30 a.m., respectively.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Men's soccer (1-0) takes the pitch on Love Field at 1:30 p.m. against Bates College (1-0) as each team tries to hand the other its first loss.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Women's soccer (0-1) will look to earn its first win of the season on Love Field at 11:00 a.m. against Bates College (1-0).

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Field Hockey (0-0) plays at 11:00 a.m. against Bates College (0-0) on Goodfriend Field in the season opener for both teams.